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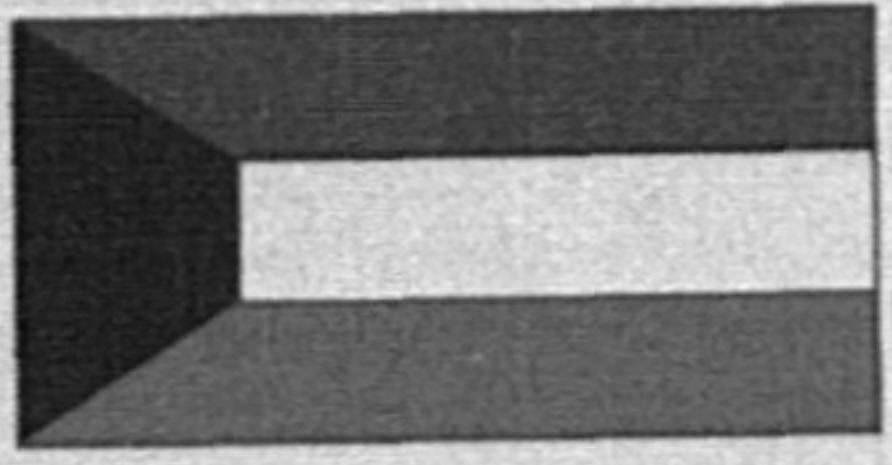
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# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT

Citizens For A Free Kuwait is an association of citizens of all countries who oppose the brutal, unprovoked, unlawful invasion and occupation of the State of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces. United States' citizens, Kuwaiti citizens, and citizens of other countries have joined together (and more are joining every day) to demonstrate support for Kuwait's legitimate, constitutional government and its return to a peaceful status within secure borders.

Citizens For a Free Kuwait will support every effort --including armed resistance within Kuwait -- to achieve just ends. We are determined to expel the aggressor and occupier from the soil of Kuwait.

We welcome support in the form of membership or volunteer assistance. The association is organized under the laws of The District of Columbia.

For more information, please write Citizens For A Free Kuwait at P.O. Box 21, Falls Church, VA 22040-0021 or telephone (202) 364-2232 or (202) 364-2210.

P.O. Box 21, Falls Church, VA 22040-0021 • (202) 686-2185/6/7/8 • (202) 686-2865 FAX

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## National Council on US- Arab Relations

1735 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 515 • Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 293-0801 • Fax: (202) 293-0903 • Telex: 989927 NCUSAR WASH

President George Bush  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

September 5, 1990

Dear Mr. President:

The National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations extends its full support to your Administration's handling of the crisis in the Gulf to date and our country's participation in the international response to the Security Council resolutions. Our actions have been taken in defense of the principles of: (1) the restoration of Kuwait's national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity; (2) the inherent right, underscored in the U.N. Charter, of any country to take measures for its self defense and to request the assistance of other member nations; and (3) the Charter's unambiguous declaration on the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force.

The National Council asks all Americans for the necessary national resolve to stand with the world community in its efforts to resist Iraq's blatant disregard for international law. Without such resolve, an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait is highly unlikely. And any acquiescence to non-withdrawal is a recipe for disaster. The unchecked invasion and absorption of one country by another would invite further adventurism from many possible directions. The disaster would be first and foremost to the Kuwaiti people whose national identity, dignity, and sovereignty have been trampled underfoot, and whose previously vibrant political and financial institutions have been seized and looted.

To the loved ones of the Americans held hostage in Kuwait and Iraq, we extend our heartfelt consolation and sympathy. We pray for their safety, their speedy release, and the reunion of all families whose unity has been shattered by Iraq's invasion, occupation, and annexation of Kuwait.

Let us not forget, also, that hundreds of thousands of Kuwaitis, like our fellow Americans, are also hostages -- in their own country -- and that tens of thousands more are daily swelling the ranks of the world's homeless and stateless refugees. They, too, must be included in our prayers and in the reasons for our resolve. They, too, must be reunited with their loved ones in their homeland.

Please accept my warm regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,

*John Duke Anthony*  
John Duke Anthony  
President



*Najeeb E. Halaby*

# A Few Suggestions for the Commander in Chief

Saddam Hussein has acted illegally and immorally by invading Kuwait and holding innocent hostages. The United States and the West have reacted righteously and mightily. Now, we must either face a disastrous counter-invasion or seize an opportunity for a comprehensive initiative for peace and stability in the Middle East—one, in which President Bush, who has mobilized a magnificent coalition against aggression, moves from massive military reaction to an American political and economic initiative in that region so full of resources and risks. Some steps toward that goal:

**1. Rely on the U.N. Security Council and put U.S. forces under U.N. command to return the aggressor to Iraq.** Surely, the 20th century has taught us that with U.S.-Soviet cooperation so mutually essential, we must reinforce and rely upon the U.N. to roll back aggression in regional conflicts.

The most nearly successful counter-invasions in 40 years were achieved by the U.N. command in Korea and the Organization of American States in the Dominican Republic. The most disastrous counter-invasions have been ours in Cuba, Vietnam and Lebanon, and the Soviets' in Afghanistan—not to mention Israel's strikes into Baghdad and Beirut and our costly military intrusion into Grenada and Panama. Yes, it is a harsh world, but after the Cold War collective

***"We do need to understand what 200 million residents of the Arab Middle East need and expect of the West."***

security can be made to work and to save lives. The United States should lead the effort.

**2. All-out international effort by the U.N. to recover the hostages and repatriate the evacuees unbearably flooding Jordan.**

**3. Let the U.N.-sponsored economic forces squeeze Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait.** If necessary, let the United Nations command force Saddam Hussein to release the hostages and push him back into Iraq. (You won't be surprised if I make a clear distinction from the good King Hussein, my beloved and beleaguered son-in-law who is the most genuine and essential peacemaker in the Middle East.)

**4. Drop the announced goal of the U.S. soldiers fighting to restore the Sheik Sabah to his throne in Kuwait.** The former rulers should be allowed to return and face a United Nations-supervised electoral process, with all qualified residents allowed to vote.

**5. Propose for the longer-term so-**

lution to the fundamental problems of the Middle East an economic development plan financed by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Gulf Emirates, Japan, the European community, the U.S.S.R. and the United States. This would offer real incentives toward peace and cooperation. It would involve a five-year conversion of military aid into development aid, an arms control agreement by all the principal parties including signature of a nuclear and chemical nonproliferation treaty, a reconstruction program for war-damaged countries, an International Monetary Fund rescheduling of massive debts owed by Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria and, yes, even Iraq and Iran.

Eligibility for this multi-billion-dollar plan would require release of all hostages, return of all occupied territories, right of return of refugees and a national commitment to the development of democracy and capitalism (as has been occurring in Jordan and Eastern Europe). This could eventually lead to a

freer marketplace for oil and the possible dissolution of OPEC.

**6. A renewal of the peace process—concurrently but separately—by the dispatch of a U.S. "peace squad" under Cyrus Vance and George Shultz to exploit the current cooperative spirit of Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia and the current peace-seeking efforts by King Hussein.** The goal would be to develop an Arab-American peace proposal as a basis for negotiations between Israel and representative Palestinians, with these talks leading to an international conference to achieve at last a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Saddam Hussein has made some horrible miscalculations. He forgot the U.S.-Soviet Cold War is over and, therefore, the United States could be free to intervene to protect the oil flow and the price at the American gas pumps. He thought the world would accept his invasion of Kuwait as it had the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the occupation of Palestine, the Soviet subjugation of the Afghans and our own raid on Gen. Noriega. He believed that in 1990 you could capture by force an outlet to the Gulf and stop Kuwait's pumping of oil out of the joint Ruwailah field.

He believed there is an Arab nation and he could command it if he commanded enough oil and captured the

Kuwaiti billions. His contempt for the oil sheiks exceeded his compassion for the illiterate, poverty-stricken and hopeless peoples. The hypocrisy of this unholy man calling for a holy war will not sell even to the least-informed Moslems when they see the lot of the average Iraqi family.

But we don't need to match his miscalculations. We do need to understand what 200 million residents of the Arab Middle East need and expect of the West. They want the West to understand and treat them as fellow humans with equal rights and opportunities for health and wealth and education. Free of colonialism and occupation, they seek to live with an Israel contained within its United Nations-approved 1967 borders.

They seek societies in which wealth can be earned and shared through progressive taxation. They want a market price for the oil that is their only resource for the future and a fair sharing of the scarce water on which life depends. They want the best of Islamic tradition and American modernism.

Espousing these measures, President Bush becomes a world statesman as well as a prudent commander in chief.

*The writer was assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs under Presidents Truman and Eisenhower.*



**AIRIFT**الشركة الأمريكية العراقية للتمويل والتجارة  
AMERICAN IRAQI FINANCE & TRADE, INC.Very UrgentTELEFAX MESSAGEDate : 6 SEPT 1990To : Off. of Public Liaison, THE WHITE HOUSEAtt. : MR. CHARLES SACARISSE, ASSIST. DIRECTORFax : 456 6218From : FUAD K. TAAMA 2667

Number of pages (including cover sheet) : \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks

PER OUR PREVIOUS TELECON, AND FAX OF  
16 AUGUST 1990, WE WISH TO REITERATE OUR  
STRONG INTEREST IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT  
BUSH. COPY OF SAID FAX IS ENCLOSED.  
THE AMERICAN IRAQI FOUNDATION IS WILLING TO  
ASSIST THE ADMINISTRATION IN THE PEACEFUL  
RESOLUTION OF THIS CONFLICT.

THANKS

FUAD K. TAAMA





الشركة الأمريكية العراقية للتمويل والتجارة  
AMERICAN IRAQI FINANCE & TRADE, INC.

VERY URGENT

TELEFAX MESSAGE

Date : August 16, 1990  
To : Office of Public Liaison, The White House  
Attention: Mr. CHARLES BACARISSE, Assistant Director  
Fax : (202) 456-6218  
From : Fuad K. Taima  
Number of pages (including cover sheet) : Two

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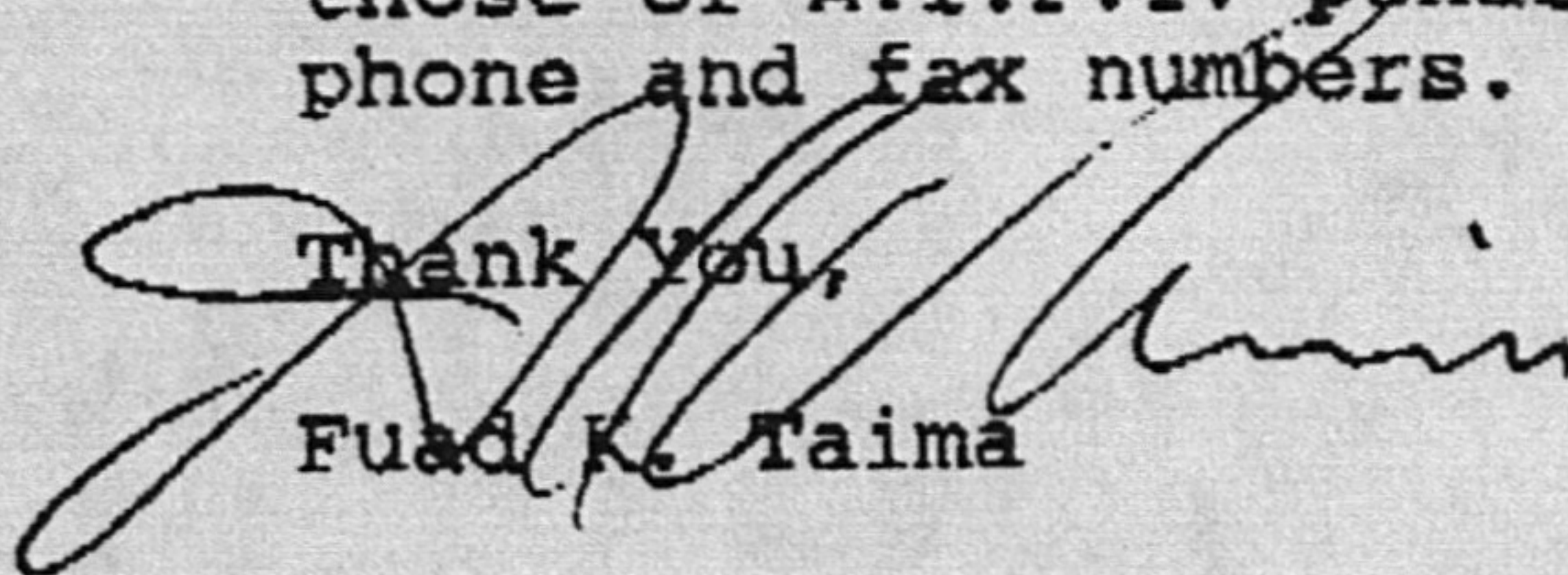
Subject: American Iraqi Foundation meeting with  
President Bush.

Good afternoon;

Per your telecon, yesterday, with Dr. Salim Mansoor, I  
enclose letter regarding this matter.

The Foundation was incorporated in Delaware. Its DC office  
will be operational next week. The phone and fax numbers are  
those of A.I.F.T. pending installation of Foundation  
phone and fax numbers.

Thank You,

  
Fuad K. Taima



## AMERICAN IRAQI FOUNDATION

1902 18th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
Tel: 749-2951 - Fax: 749-2954

August 16, 1990

Mr. Charles Bacarisse  
Assistant Director  
Office of Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Subject: Meeting with President George Bush

Dear Sir;

The unfolding and rapidly escalating confrontation between the USA and Iraq is a major and vital concern to the American Iraqi Foundation and its nationwide members. The Foundation is a non profit public interest organization dedicated to promoting strong and positive ties between the people of Iraq, the USA and hopefully their respective Governments. Our membership is open to US citizens and permanent residents who share a strong commitment to these goals.

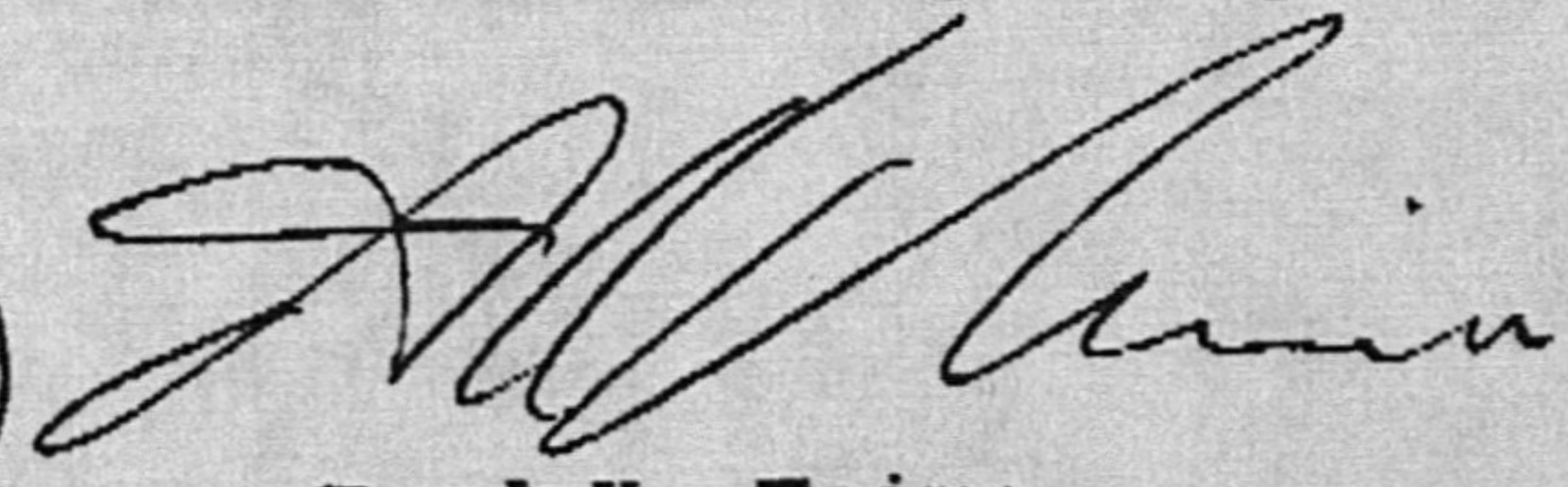
The American Iraqi community in the USA numbers approximately three hundred thousand people. They have distinguished themselves as successful and prominent business executives, scientists and educators. Furthermore, the American Iraqi community has nearly three million immediate members living in Iraq. Our community in the USA, and our relatives in Iraq, are comprised of Chaldeans, Assyrians, Kurdish, Turkish and Arab backgrounds. Likewise, it reflects Iraq's religious mix of Moslems and Christians. Our community in the USA, Worldwide and Iraq, is a living reflection of Iraq's history and culture including our forefather Abraham who was a native of Iraq.

We urgently seek a meeting with President Bush to express our views on the issues at hand and to offer the services of the Foundation as a vehicle for equitable and peaceful resolution of this explosive crisis. We strongly believe that this situation must be resolved immediately by non military means.

Your immediate attention to the above would be greatly appreciated.

Cordially,

10 (Salim Y. Mansoor, MD)  
Salim Y. Mansoor, MD  
President

  
Fuad K. Taima  
Executive Vice President



## AMERICAN IRAQI FOUNDATION

P. O. Box 10623  
 McLean, Virginia 22102  
 Tel: (703) 749-2951 - Fax: (703) 749-2954

1902 18th Street, NW  
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الشركة الأمريكية العراقية للتمويل والتجارة  
AMERICAN IRAQI FINANCE & TRADE, INC.

## TELEFAX MESSAGE

Date : 17 Aug 90

To : A. A. I

Attn : HELEN SAMHAN

Fax : 429 9214

From : F. H. TAIMA

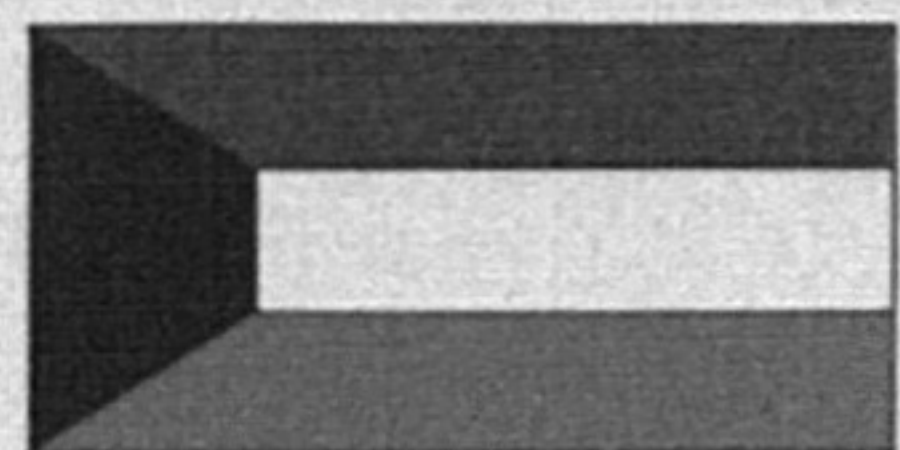
Number of pages (including cover sheet) : 4

## Remarks

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PER OUR TELECON. - COPY OF FAX TO WHITE  
HOUSE ENCLOSED IF POSSIBLE, PLS STAY IN  
TOUCH WITH DR. SAJID MANSOUR, PRESIDENT,  
OF THE FOUNDATION. PHONE (301) 899 4573.  
I WILL CONTACT YOU AND GIVE YOU A NUMBER  
@ THE BEACH. OTHERWISE YOU CAN LEAVE A  
MESSAGE AT MY OFF. THANKS

FAY





# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



## *THE IRAQI INVASION: ITS ROOTS AND IMPLICATIONS*

*A White Paper*

August, 1990

P.O. Box 21, Falls Church, VA 22040-0021 • (202) 686-2185/6/7/8 • (202) 686-2865 FAX

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## **FORWARD**

Iraq's dictator Saddam Hussein stunned the world by sending tens of thousands of troops to seize the State of Kuwait in the predawn hours of August 2, 1990, and shortly thereafter announcing the annexation of Iraq's tiny neighbor and former ally.

Saddam Hussein's attack drew a unanimous vote of censure and repeated demands for an immediate withdrawal by the United Nations Security Council and scores of nations around the world. The United States and Kuwait's alarmed Arab neighbors quickly agreed on the need for an international, military counterforce to be assembled in the region. Oil and financial markets reacted immediately, gripped by buying and selling frenzies costing investors hundreds of billions of dollars and driving oil prices to record levels, threatening worldwide recession.

The very boldness of the assault on Kuwait's sovereignty made the U.S. and Arab military response understandable to the world. However, because the assault and response occurred so rapidly and in a little-understood part of the world, observers elsewhere remain confused about the roots and meaning of the crisis.

This White Paper, to be made available to the media, political leaders, and individuals seeking more information, is intended to eliminate that confusion. It was prepared, too, with the hope that the light it sheds on the crisis may contribute to its resolution.

We are grateful for your interest in the plight of the State of Kuwait and hope that this effort will help to contribute to your further understanding of it.



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## WHO ARE THE KUWAITIS?

The people of Kuwait have been free and proud, and they have lived peaceably alongside their Arab neighbors for almost three centuries. They have been governed since 1752 by a succession of thirteen rulers, all descendants of the Al-Sabah family, chosen to be the ruling family by tribal consensus.

The tiny nation of Kuwait, whose name is derived from the Arabic word meaning "little fortress," had lived in the shadow of the Ottoman Empire for most of its history. By the mid-1500s, the Ottoman Turks had established the southeastern outpost of their empire in the lands constituting modern Iraq, which borders Kuwait on the north.

The Kuwaitis conducted a thriving trade with the Ottomans, who coveted the pearls they recovered from oysters in the Arabian Gulf. At times, Kuwaiti rulers paid tribute to the Ottoman sultans. On several occasions, the Ottomans sought to extend their control over Kuwait. While none of these attempts succeeded, the fear of Ottoman domination was ever present and eventually led to an 1899 agreement that shaped Kuwait's modern history.

It was in 1899 that Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah, reacting to another threatened takeover by the Ottoman Empire, persuaded Great Britain to act as his nation's protector in return for the right to act for Kuwait outside the country.

Shielded by Great Britain during the first half of the 20th century, the Kuwaitis patiently went about the task of converting to an economy driven by oil, rather than pearl diving. World War II interrupted the nation's oil exploration program; but the Kuwaitis eventually located immense oil reserves totaling more than 91 billion barrels, of which 66 billion barrels -- a 233-year supply at current production rates -- are estimated as recoverable by today's methods. Only Saudi Arabia (which borders Kuwait on the south and west) and the Soviet Union have greater oil reserves.

Kuwait's first commercial oil production in 1948 began a period of revolutionary economic growth and political and social change. When the British protectorate ended in 1961, the Kuwaitis restructured their government, basing it on a constitution guaranteeing a broad range of human rights.

The constitution of 1962, the legal basis of modern-day Kuwaiti democracy, has two important articles at its core: Article 4, which gives legitimacy to the Al-Sabah family as the ruling family, and Article 6, which establishes the government as democratic and sovereign. The constitution further upholds the freedoms of religion, speech, and the press, as well as human rights.

In the early 1950s, the estimated 100,000 residents of Kuwait had but one hospital, no roads, and virtually no social services. By 1985, the two million residents (including 679,000 native Kuwaitis) enjoyed free medical care at thirty hospitals, free education through 12th grade, free scholarships to study at leading institutions around the world, generous retirement and unemployment benefits, and some of the finest highways and public and private buildings in the world.

Oil production thriving, Kuwait instituted astonishing social changes. Writes Daniel Pipes, director of the Philadelphia-based Foreign Policy Research Institute and a recent visitor to Kuwait:



Surprisingly, in a single generation, Kuwait emerged as an intellectual and cultural center of the Middle East. It supported serious research into medical and ecological programs. Its universities attracted some of the brightest minds of the Arabic-speaking world. As Kuwaitis became educated (literacy rate: 71%), they came to recognize the value of liberal tolerance. Their newspapers, magazines, and books were among the freest and most important in the region. Whether it was accurate news from Lebanon or the Arabic version of Sesame Street, chances were good it came from Kuwait.<sup>1</sup>

In the vanguard, Kuwait's women enjoy a status unlike that of their sisters in other Arab lands. Observes Mr. Pipes, "In Kuwait, women drove cars, joined men in university classrooms, shared business space with them, and held positions of responsibility in the government."<sup>2</sup> However, they have yet to be granted the vote.

Kuwait has more than fifteen Christian churches catering to Kuwaiti citizens and foreigners. The Vatican has maintained its Papal Nuncio to Kuwait for many years. Not surprisingly, tolerance has been the hallmark of modern Kuwait's foreign policy. Writes Mr. Pipes, "In the effort to maintain good relations with nearly everyone, the government gave away billions of dollars in aid." Mr. Pipes underscores Kuwait's role as Mideast conciliator: "Unlike many of its oil-rich peers, it neither supported terrorist groups nor sought to shape a new international order."<sup>3</sup>

In 1977, Kuwait became one of the world's major foreign aid donors when its contributions reached eight percent of gross domestic product. It remained in first place from 1981 to 1985.

The legacy of hostile acts by Iraq, the rise of Shiite extremism, and spill-over of the eight-year Iran-Iraq War have, at times, forced the leadership of Kuwait to adopt emergency security measures to protect the people of Kuwait. These measures have included restrictions on communications and public gatherings and the dismissal of the assembly.

The first set of measures was adopted in the mid-1970s in response to a border incursion in which several Kuwaitis were killed. Other measures were implemented in 1986, when Kuwait was threatened in the cross-fire of the Iran-Iraq War.

With the death of the Ayatollah Khomeini in June of 1989, the cessation of the Iran-Iraq War, and the cooling of tensions in the Gulf region, the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahman Al-Sabah, had begun working for the removal of emergency security measures and movement toward the full restoration of government assemblies in accordance with Kuwait's 1962 Constitution.

The Iraqi invasion has preempted these discussions about democracy.

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<sup>1</sup> Pipes, Daniel, "What Kuwait Was Like," The Washington Post, Aug. 10, 1990.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.



## WHAT ARE THE ROOTS OF THE CRISIS?

The historical roots of the Iraqi invasion lie in a territorial dispute brewing since the early 1920s -- practically from the very birth of Iraq. It is a fascinating story with a preface that began years earlier.

In 1913, Great Britain evinced concern over the decaying Ottoman Empire's cozy relations with Germany. England negotiated an agreement with Turkey to define the boundaries of the Turks' Persian Gulf and adjacent territories. This agreement included the boundaries of modern Kuwait. Before the 1913 convention could be ratified by either country, World War I broke out, with the English and Turks as enemies.

The trouble began after the war when the victorious allies carved up the Ottoman Empire under the Treaty of Versailles. What had been the Ottoman Empire Provinces of Baghdad, Mosul, and Basra were combined, under British protection, into the new kingdom of Iraq.

In April of 1921, England's Winston Churchill decided at the Cairo Conference that the Hashemite Prince Faisal should rule as king of the new nation of Iraq, subject to approval by a plebiscite. Faisal subsequently was proclaimed king on August 23, 1921.

The British mandate ended in 1922, replaced by a treaty of alliance. A month later, negotiations began regarding Iraq's official boundaries; negotiators included Sabih Bey, Iraq's Minister of Communications; King Ibn Sa'ud of Saudi Arabia; and Sir Percy Cox, representing Kuwait.

H.R.P. Dickson, a British official present at these early negotiations, later reported in his book Kuwait and Her Neighbours this assertion by the Iraqi minister:

Since God created the world and history began to be written, Iraq's boundary extends south to within 12 miles of Ibn Sa'ud's capital, Riyadh...and east to include Hufuf and Qatif on the Persian Gulf. As God is my witness, this and only this is the true boundary and cannot be disputed.

Then, Dickson reports, an enraged Ibn Sa'ud rose to his feet and roared back:

I know nothing about creation, but I do know that from the days of Abraham, my great grandparent, the territories of [my people] have extended as far north as Aleppo on the river Orantes in north Syria, and included the whole country on the right bank of the Euphrates from there down to Basra on the Persian Gulf.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Harold Richard Patrick Dickson, Kuwait and Her Neighbours (London: Alan and Unwin, 1956).



To keep peace, Cox offered to cede some of Kuwait to each. Fortunately for the Kuwaitis, that deal never was approved. In fact, in the formal agreement signed ten years later, Kuwait's borders were set exactly where they had been in the 1913 agreement between Great Britain and Turkey.

However, since the 1930s, Iraqi rulers have asserted that Iraq, as the central state in a pan-Arab union, should include northern Kuwait. Iraq, lacking access to deep seaports, hoped to incorporate the island of Warba and a portion of the coastline of the island of Bubiyan, part of Kuwait. In return, they promised fresh water, which Kuwait lacks. In 1961, the year Britain granted independence to the State of Kuwait, Iraq announced it would annex all of Kuwait, without success.

Iraq again moved on Kuwait in 1969. Troops marched onto Kuwaiti lands, ostensibly to protect against attack by Iran, and refused to leave. In fact, they built a road through Kuwaiti territory to their station in the Gulf. In March of 1973, shots were exchanged and Kuwait declared a state of emergency. Kuwait found support from Gulf states, the Arab League, and other Arab nations, not to mention an influx of Soviet ships, and succeeded in forcing the Iraqis to back down. However, complete withdrawal of Iraqi troops did not occur until July, 1977.

In the late 1970s, the Iranian revolution meant an end to regional stability. Kuwait had opposed the Shah's position as guardian of foreign interests in the Gulf but benefitted from the Shah's ability to neutralize its stronger neighbors and mediate on issues. By contrast, when the Ayatollah Khomeini came to power, he labeled Kuwait and other Gulf countries the "American Islam." The Kuwaitis turned back the Ayatollah at the border in October, 1978, an event he would always remember.

Policy toward Iran changed as unrest began within the growing Shiite population of Kuwait, who took inspiration from the Islamic revolution. Externally, Kuwait could hardly afford confrontation with so large a neighbor. The result: a neutralizing of the relationship with the new Iranian regime in July, 1979.

The situation again changed in 1988 with the Iran-Iraq war. With the war zone fewer than 150 miles from Kuwait City and Iran occupying the Faw peninsula less than 10 miles from the border, Kuwait's stated official neutrality turned to support for Iraq, perceived as the lesser of two evils.

To support Iraq, Kuwait, along with Saudi Arabia, donated 100 percent of the revenue from shared oil fields in eastern Kuwait that produced 300,000 barrels a day. Government records indicate wartime monetary gifts from Kuwait to Iraq of a staggering \$15 billion. In addition, Kuwait also allowed Iraq-bound shipments of material into its ports to evade Iran's shipping blockade, and they permitted Iraqi aircraft en route to targets to use its air space. This exposed Kuwaiti ships, ports, public buildings, and citizens to numerous rocket, bomb, and terrorist attacks through the mid-1980s.

For their help, President Saddam Hussein of Iraq called Kuwait "our few distinguished brethren."<sup>5</sup> Now with his current occupation of Kuwait, Saddam Hussein has renounced that brotherhood, reiterated the old pan-Arab mandate, and claimed a right of access to the Gulf.

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<sup>5</sup> Al-Yaqza, March 4-10, 1988, p.6



## WHAT IS HAPPENING IN KUWAIT?

In the pre-dawn darkness of August 2, 1990, tens of thousands of Iraqi troops with armored tanks swept over the border of Kuwait and overcame unsuspecting and heavily outnumbered Kuwaiti border forces in a quick, bloody battle. Many of the remaining members of Kuwait's 16,000-man army managed to withdraw into Saudi Arabia with vehicles and equipment. Virtually all of Kuwait's 2000-man air force and its small naval force escaped to Saudi Arabia and other friendly neighboring countries. All are nearby and available for action, official Kuwaiti sources report.

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The speed and stealth of the Iraqi assault stunned even seasoned Kuwaiti government officials. More than a week after the attack, his Excellency Sheikh Saud Nasir Al-Sabah, Kuwaiti ambassador to the United States, was still reeling. "It wasn't in our mind or in our vision of a thousand years that something like this would happen," he told a Washington Post reporter. "It was a stab in the back."<sup>6</sup>

Since the invasion, little hard information emerges from inside Kuwait. Individuals who have escaped the siege report looting, begging, and desertion by hungry and disillusioned Iraqi soldiers; they tell of thousands of shade trees dying in the blazing sun because the Iraqi invaders don't know how, or refuse to irrigate them each day; they speak of violence. There are other unconfirmed, disturbing reports. Here are some samples:

A Kuwaiti banker in the U.S.: "I've heard from my neighbor and there's nothing left in my house. He says they're breaking into every empty house, every one, and they're taking everything out -- clothes, rugs, furniture, anything they could possibly ever use."

A Kuwaiti educator in Washington: "I feel sorry for the Egyptians; the Egyptians and the Filipino maids. Anyone identifiable as an Egyptian (typically by his accent) is being beaten right there on the street, my friend says. He says a lot of the maids are being raped."

But the Iraqis have been unable to convince even one Kuwaiti to work with them. An active resistance against the invader grows within and without the Kuwaiti borders. Reports range from resisters confusing the enemy by spray-painting over street signs to outright harassment and attack.

"They're undermining the Iraqis' spirit," says a Kuwaiti educator visiting the U.S. during the invasion. "Some Iraqi soldiers are deserting, others selling their guns to buy food. The going rate for a Russian-made sub-machine gun in Kuwait City is now \$50. Some Kuwaitis got together and bought a tank from defectors. Then they burned it." Other reports come from escapees, who tell of brave Kuwaiti citizens who helped them escape, who face their enemy without guns.

Meanwhile, as the troop build-up continues in Saudi Arabia, the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers -- the nation's cabinet -- confers daily at its temporary capital headquarters in Taif, in the western mountains of Saudi Arabia, planning the liberation of their homeland.

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<sup>6</sup> Roberts, Roxanne. "The Envoy on the Edge of Crisis," The Washington Post, August 10, 1990, p. C1.



## **WHAT IS THE POSITION OF CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT?**

Citizens for a Free Kuwait, a Washington, D.C.-based organization, is comprised of citizens of many nations -- Kuwait, the United States, and others -- and is dedicated to an early end to the Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait.

Specifically, the group is committed to these goals:

- (1) resisting the invasion, internally and externally, for as long as it takes to restore Kuwait's sovereignty;
- (2) supporting President Bush and the UN, including Kuwait's Arab neighbors, in demanding an immediate, complete, and unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, restoration of Kuwait's legitimate constitutional government, security and stability for Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf, and the protection of the lives of American citizens -- indeed the rights of all private citizens -- abroad; and
- (3) seeking a peaceful resolution of Iraq's unprovoked aggression, although it will not stand by idly while its country is dismembered.

Citizens for a Free Kuwait is wholly convinced that Saddam Hussein is a terrorist leader who commits atrocities against his own people and against all international principles of responsible behavior. The organization also is equally convinced that Saddam Hussein's Iraq has become a bloody-handed, outlaw state that richly deserves the censure of the United Nations, expulsion from the Arab League, and excommunication by all civilized societies.

Citizens for a Free Kuwait and Kuwaitis everywhere will be ever grateful to the people and the government of the United States and to Kuwait's Arab neighbors and international supporters for their vital support and sacrifices. The presence of the American troops is especially appreciated.



## **WHY IS A PROMPT RESOLUTION VITAL?**

In the few weeks since Iraq's disastrous misadventure in Kuwait began, the world's investment markets have suffered horrendous, unnecessary shocks now threatening the social fabric of the nations in which those markets operate.

During the first three weeks of August, shares traded on the New York Stock Exchange lost some \$350 billion of their value. Bond prices, too, have fluctuated wildly. The price declines in European and Asian stock and bond markets have been similarly precipitous. Japan's Nikkei Stock Average lost approximately one-third of its value during the initial period of the crisis.

Meanwhile, a concomitant and equally disturbing oil price spiral is disrupting the spot and futures markets for crude oil, refined petroleum products, natural gas, and coal. These pernicious dislocations, in turn, are disrupting shipping and short-term financing schedules on a worldwide basis.

Furthermore, these blows are raining down on economies more fragile now than at any time in recent memory. The economies of the United States and a number of other developed nations are sliding rapidly into recession, with their corporations carrying high debt loads at a staggering rate of interest. The sudden surge in energy prices is most seriously damaging the economies of precisely those poor and developing nations least able to absorb such punishment.

How can the Middle East ever find true peace if it is denied the moderating influence of Kuwait's thoughtful and compassionate foreign policy? When would the next explosion occur? If left free to control the production of fully 20 percent of the world's known oil reserves, does not Hussein pose still greater threats for world economies?

But the challenge to the world goes beyond the question of whether Americans will pay \$1.00 or \$2.00 per gallon of gasoline. It goes also to the heart of acceptable standards of civilized behavior. Those standards are at risk because of a sudden nighttime attack on our small, relatively unarmed nation. They are at risk because of Hussein's turning thousands of innocent visitors in Kuwait and Iraq into pawns.

Accordingly, Citizens for a Free Kuwait will continue turning to men and women of goodwill everywhere, asking them to join us in every conceivable effort to end this nightmare before still more damage is done.



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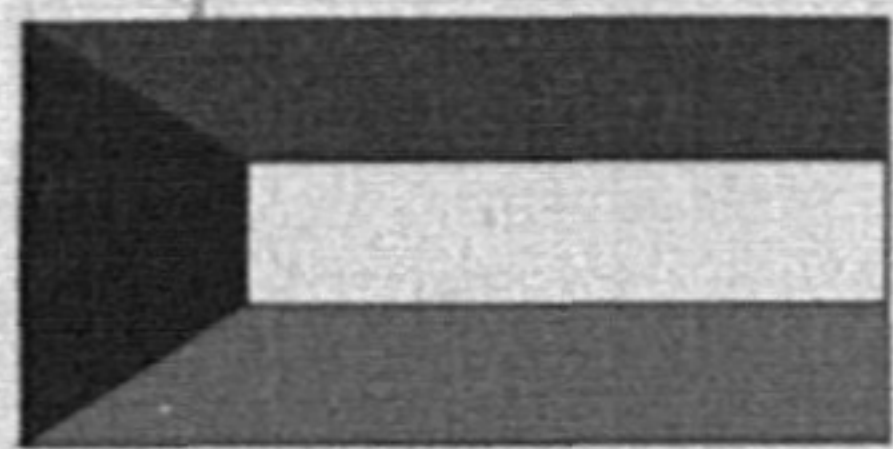
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# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### CHRONOLOGY OF KUWAIT CRISIS

- July 31** Iraq and Kuwait begin talks in Saudi Arabia under mediation of King Fahd on oil pricing/production, Iraqi territorial claims.
- August 1** Iraq breaks off talks with Kuwait. Press reports claim 120 Iraqi officers executed by firing squads for opposing aggression against Kuwait.
- August 2** Iraq launches pre-dawn attack on Kuwait and achieves quick success. UN Security Council condemns invasion, calls for unconditional withdrawal. U.S. initiates economic embargo; freezes all Kuwaiti and Iraqi assets.
- August 3** Iraqi forces move near Saudi Arabian border. Western civilians are trapped in Kuwait. U.S. proposes UN resolution for complete economic boycott of Iraq.
- August 4** Iraq consolidates hold on Kuwait and appoints new military government. European Community joins trade embargo on Iraq.
- August 5** Iraqi-appointed government of Kuwait claims Iraqi troops are starting to leave Kuwait. Japan halts Iraqi oil imports.
- August 6** UN Security Council votes 13-0 for Res. 661, ordering worldwide trade/financial embargo.
- August 7** President Bush orders troops, warplanes be sent to Saudi Arabia. Turkey blocks Iraqi oil pipeline to Mediterranean.
- August 8** Iraq announces Kuwait is "part of Iraq."
- August 9** U.S. troops begin deployment in Saudi Arabia. Iraq closes borders; cancels \$45 billion debt to Kuwait. UN Security Council passes Res. 662 by 15-0 vote, declaring annexation of Kuwait null and void.
- August 10** 12 Arab League states vote to send all-Arab military force to defend Saudi Arabia. Egyptian forces arrive in Saudi Arabia. Iraq demands closure of all foreign embassies in Kuwait. Saddam calls for Arab "holy war" against U.S. forces in Gulf.

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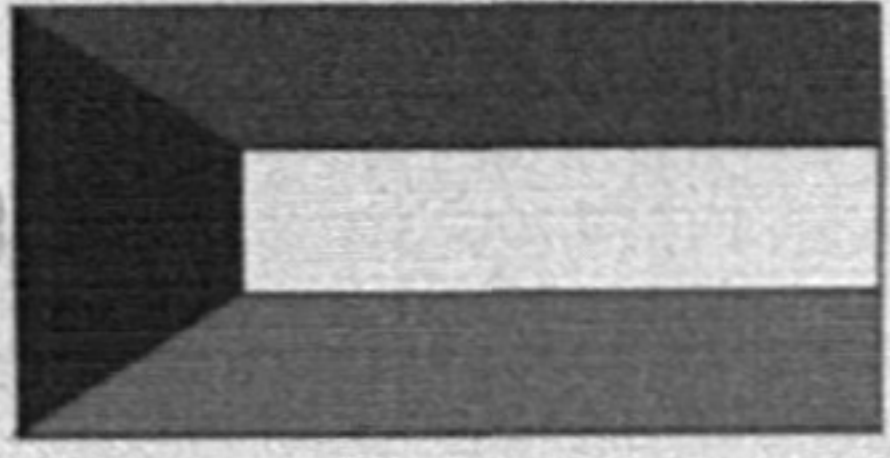


## Chronology .../2

- August 11 Saudi anti-aircraft batteries reportedly fire at Iraqi reconnaissance planes.
- August 12 U.S. pledges to "interdict" Iraqi oil shipments.
- August 13 Iraqi troops remove American, British civilians from two hotels in Kuwait to unknown destination. Britain, Australia join naval force in Gulf. Pakistan agrees to send ground troops. Netherlands, Belgium, agree to send naval forces.
- August 14 Italy sends ships to eastern Mediterranean. Moroccan troops arrive in Saudi Arabia.
- August 15 Saddam moves to end Iraq's war with Iran on Iranian terms. Syrian troops arrive in Saudi Arabia. Iraq defines detained Westerners as "restrictees" who may be used for bargaining.
- August 17 President Bush decides to call up 80,000 military reservists. Iraq says Western hostages will be held until U.S. withdraws forces from Saudi Arabia and war threat ends; 35 U.S. hostages taken from Baghdad hotel to undisclosed location.
- August 18 U.S. navy ship fires warning shots across the bow of Iraqi oil tanker. UN Security Council votes 15-0 for Res. 664, demanding release of all foreigners in Kuwait and Iraq.
- August 19 Iraq orders all Westerners in Kuwait to report for relocation.
- August 20 Iraq reports relocation of Western hostages to military installations as human shields against any U.S. attack.
- August 21 Arab and Western nations condemn threats against hostages.
- August 22 President Bush signs order calling up 40,000 reservists; announces U.S. will defy order to close embassy in Kuwait.
- August 23 Saddam says keeping Kuwait embassies open after August 24 will be regarded as "act of aggression."
- August 25 UN Security Council votes 13-0 to approve Res. 665 authorizing military force to halt maritime trade with Iraq.

# # #





# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### SADDAM HUSSEIN'S HISTORY OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

[Compiled from newswires and various news sources]

- The son of a peasant, Saddam Hussein committed his first murder at 14.
- Saddam has been called the "Butcher of Baghdad" and "The Most Dangerous Man in the World," a reputation that started to take shape as far back as 1959.
- Saddam Hussein was a member of a Ba'athist hit-squad that attempted unsuccessfully in 1959 to assassinate the then Communist-backed military president, General Qassem.
- Shortly after becoming president in 1979, the regime sentenced a group of its own senior officials to death for conspiracy. The state's leaders were officially reported to have been present at the execution, and all members of the Ba'ath Party, including those in Britain, were ordered to watch the executions on video.
- Iraqi forces began using poison gas against Iranian troops in 1983.
- In 1984, 600 members were executed from an Iranian-backed Shiite organization formed to disrupt Saddam's rule.
- In 1985, Saddam arrested 300 children of parents who were political activists. At least 29 were reported executed.
- An Iraqi Mirage F1 fired two Exocet missiles at the frigate USS Stark, killing 37 American soldiers in May 1987.
- In March 1988, more than 8000 people were killed by nerve gas in the Kurdish town of Halabja. Whole families were found dead, defenseless against chemical weapons.
- In March 1990, the Iraqi government announced a new legal exemption for Iraqi men: they were entitled to kill women members of their family, including mothers, grandmothers and cousins, if they suspected them of adultery.
- On March 10, 1990, Saddam Hussein ignored British protests and ordered the execution of Iranian born, London journalist Farzad Bazoft based on erroneous charges of espionage. Bazoft, who tried to gather information about a massive explosion at a military complex, was hanged five days later on March 15.

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## Human Rights .../2

- Mrs. Daphne Parish, a British nurse, was sentenced to 15 years in jail for giving the journalist a lift in her car.
- In April 1990, Saddam Hussein pledged to "scorch half of Israel" with poison gas.
- On April 19, 1990, a House panel approved a non-binding resolution condemning Iraq for human rights abuses, including torture, executions and persistent repression of all political opposition.
- On April 6, 1990, a federal grand jury indicted a former employee of Iraq's United Nations mission, charging that he was part of a plot to assassinate opponents of the Iraqi government in this country.
- On August 8, 1990, Iraqi soldiers reportedly fired on 35 women and youths who were peacefully protesting against the annexation of Kuwait in Kuwait City. A witness said two teenagers and a 20-year-old died, shot in the heart and head.
- Saddam took his health minister, Riyadh Ibrahim, to another room and shot him after he had suggested during a cabinet meeting that Saddam consider stepping down temporarily to help end the Iran-Iraq War.
- In its recent review of human rights, the State Department cited Iraq's extensive surveillance, disappearances, torture and summary executions of dissidents; "non-existent" press freedom; the destruction of villages and the forced removal of nearly 500,000 people since 1987 from "security zones" along the border with Iran.
- Reports in the Egyptian press indicate that 120 officers of Saddam's army who objected to the invasion of Kuwait, for example, were executed.
- Iraqis are often frightened to voice their opinions even within the family, so fearsome is the security apparatus and so effective its network of informers. Executions are commonplace.
- Saddam Hussein's underlings are so terrified of execution and reprisals against their families that they dare not tell him unpalatable truths.
- It is a capital offense in Iraq to insult the President, espouse Zionism, leave the ruling Ba'ath Party or persuade someone else to do so. Using these laws, Iraq has executed thousands.
- It [Iraq] has waged genocidal war against its own Kurdish minority, using poison gas in contravention of a Geneva protocol to which it is a party.

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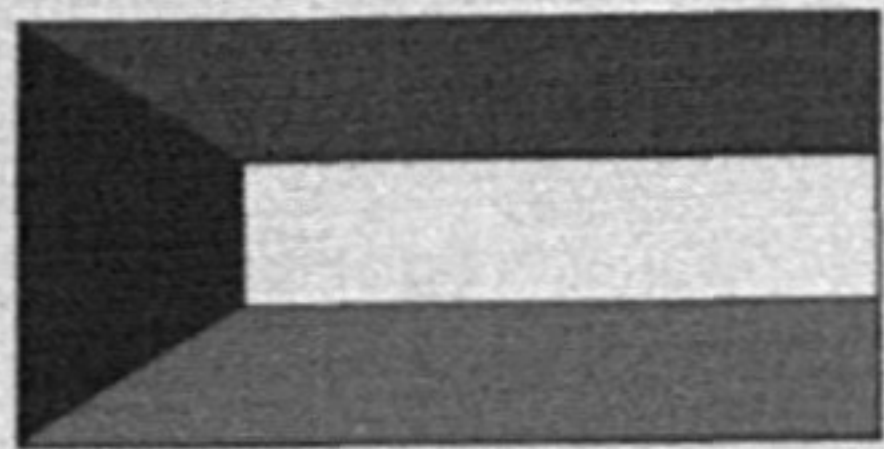


### Human Rights .../3

- Amnesty International has received several reports of human rights violations by Iraqi forces, including allegations of rape, killings and summary executions of unarmed civilians.
- Ninety members of Saddam Hussein's dissident family in the town of Najaf had "disappeared" under Saddam's regime and 20 more had been executed.
- From student days onward, killing has always been part of Saddam Hussein's political repertoire. Those who have opposed Saddam Hussein more openly have disappeared or have been imprisoned and, in dozens of cases, executed.
- During the Iran-Iraq War Saddam used chemical weapons, contrary to the Geneva protocol.
- On a recent appearance on ABC, Saddam defended his use of chemical weapons against the Kurds because, as he put it, they were "traitors."
- Saddam deported half-a-million Shiite Arabs to Iran, confiscated their property, and has attempted to destroy the ancient Shiite institutions based in Najaf and Kerbala, in central Iraq. Schools there have been closed, and leading clerics killed under torture, executed or banished.
- Iraq marked the end of the war by beginning active support for General Aoun in Lebanon, undermining the reconciliation policy of the Arab League.
- Amnesty International this year said eight teenagers were held for more than 15 months and horribly tortured for political reasons.
- Saddam arrested 90 members of a prominent Shiite family -- ages 9 to 76 -- after one of them made anti-Iraq broadcasts from Iran. When the broadcasts continued, he killed six members of the family in front of the rest.

# # #





# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### STATE OF KUWAIT

**GEOGRAPHY:** The State of Kuwait lies at the northwest extreme of the Persian (Arabian) Gulf. It comprises a mainland region and nine small islands. Kuwait City is its capital. The total area of Kuwait is 6,940 square miles, approximately the size of New Jersey. It is bordered to the north by Iraq and by Saudi Arabia in the south and southwest. The terrain is a flat, sandy desert gradually sloping down from 300 meters in the west to sea level in the east, broken by a 145 meter ridge.

**PEOPLE:** Population in 1990 is estimated to be 2.1 million. Of this total, Kuwaitis constitute 826,500, non-Kuwaitis 1,316,000. Of the non-Kuwaitis, Arabs constitute 37.9 percent; Asians, 21 percent; Europeans, 0.7 percent; and Americans 0.2 percent. (These figures are based on pre-invasion estimates.)

**LANGUAGE:** The official language is Arabic, but English is used in commercial circles and is considered the second language.

**HISTORY:** The modern State of Kuwait traces its origins to the early 18th Century when the Utubi clan of the Anaza tribe settled in the area. As a sign of their influence and the respect with which they were viewed, the Sabah family were elected as the hereditary ruling family, first among equals. Nominally under Ottoman Turkish suzerainty, Kuwait became affiliated with Great Britain by treaty in 1899. A British Protectorate was established in 1914, but in 1961 Kuwait gained its full sovereignty. From 1752 until the present, there have been thirteen rulers from the Sabah family. The current ruler is His Highness, Shaikh Jabir Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

**GOVERNMENT:** In 1962, the Amir Abdullah al-Salim Al-Sabah, in association with the Constituent Assembly, promulgated the Constitution of the State of Kuwait. Under the Constitution, the system of government is democratic under which sovereignty resides in the people. Executive power is vested in the Amir, the Head of State, and is exercised through a Council of Ministers under the leadership of the Prime Minister. Legislative power is vested in a unicameral National Assembly with 50 elected members who serve four years. Literate, adult Kuwaiti male citizens are eligible to vote, excluding members of the armed forces.

In 1986, severe internal pressures in Kuwait caused by the Iran-Iraq war necessitated dissolution of the National Assembly and the suspension of

-more-



## **State of Kuwait.../2**

elections. Shortly before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait the Amir publicly stated his intention to call for an election.

**RELIGION:** Article 35 of the Kuwaiti Constitution states that, "The freedom of belief is absolute. The State protects the freedom of practicing religion in accordance with established customs, provided that it does not conflict with public policy or morals." The latest figures available, 1975, show that about 95 percent of the population is Muslim, while about 4.5 percent are Christians, Hindus or adherents of other faiths. Islam is the state religion of Kuwait.

**ECONOMY:** Kuwait has a mixed economic system which includes both government-owned and private enterprises. The government owns all petroleum, natural gas, and derivative industries, while the private sector operates building materials, construction, trade and finance companies. Government spending priorities emphasized education, housing, roads, public utilities, telecommunications, and medical care. The Kuwaiti economy grew by 5 percent in 1989, reaching a GNP of approximately US\$30 billion. Per capita (GNP) income was \$15,308 in 1989, an increase of 15.71 percent over the previous year. Kuwait's principal exports are crude petroleum and refined products, natural gas, chemicals, machinery, and transport equipment. Principal foreign markets for the products are Japan, Italy, the United States, Taiwan, West Germany and the United Kingdom. U.S. exports to Kuwait soared to \$855 million in 1989.

**SOCIAL SERVICES:** Revenues from petroleum exports are used for the benefit of citizens and residents alike. Education is free to all from kindergarten through high school. Free university and advanced technical education is also provided by the government for all qualified Kuwaiti citizens of both sexes and to a significant percentage of non-Kuwaiti residents. Medical and dental services are also provided at a low cost and the government subsidizes housing for its lower and middle income citizens. The Kuwait social security system also provides for the care of orphans and the aged. In addition, the government supports many cultural, sports and recreational activities.

**INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE:** Kuwait also uses its annual oil revenues to assist developing countries. A primary vehicle is the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED), established in 1961. State-funded, but politically independent, the Fund gives aid on the basis of need to Arab and non-Arab countries alike. Kuwait's assistance as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was the highest in the world in 1981-1985. Kuwait was the world's leading source of aid to developing countries, donating nearly 4 percent of its Gross National Product (GNP) for various projects in 1988.

# # #





# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### FOREIGN POLICY OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

**OVERVIEW:** Kuwait is a small state strategically located at the juncture of three larger neighbors -- Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Iran. Kuwait historically has been highly conscious of its geographic vulnerability and pursues a pragmatic, moderate foreign policy. While strongly oriented to the West, it simultaneously has been a supportive and responsible partner to other Arab nations.

**PRE-INDEPENDENCE:** Since the 1500s, Kuwait was overshadowed by the huge Ottoman Empire whose southeastern frontier included the territory which constitutes modern Iraq. In 1899, a threatened Ottoman takeover led Shaik Mubarak al-Sabah to ask Great Britain to assume a protectorate over Kuwait.

During the 1930s, Iraq asserted claims to northern Kuwait, particularly the island of Warba and a coastal section of the island of Bubiyan, arguing that these lands were essential to block Iranian naval offensives. The initiation of commercial oil production in Kuwait during 1948 generated a period of rapid economic, political, and social change. This period culminated in the termination of the British protectorate in 1961. It was replaced by a restructured Kuwaiti government whose constitution guaranteed a broad range of human rights. The Constitution of 1962, the legal basis of modern-day Kuwait democracy, has two important articles at its core: Article 4, which gives legitimacy to the Al-Sabah family as the ruling family; and Article 6, which establishes the government as democratic and sovereign. The constitution further upholds the freedoms of religion, speech, and press, as well as human rights.

**PRIOR IRAQI INCURSIONS:** With the emergence of an independent Kuwait in 1961, Iraq's military dictator announced his intention to annex all of Kuwait. This plan was thwarted by a treaty with Britain which sent troops and naval units to prevent the threatened invasion. Iraqi troops entered Kuwaiti territory in 1969 (allegedly to block an Iranian attack) and refused to leave. When further shots were exchanged in 1973, Kuwait declared a state of emergency and enlisted help from the Gulf States, the Arab League, and the U.S.S.R. Nonetheless, total withdrawal of Iraqi troops did not occur until 1977.

**FOREIGN AID:** Since 1961, Kuwait has provided capital to developing Arab countries through the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. Kuwait was a principal contributor to the Fund, established to help Egypt and Jordan recover from the 1967 and 1973 wars, and along with Saudi Arabia, has contributed to the more moderate Palestinian

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## Foreign Policy .../2

factions. Kuwait became one of the world's major aid donors in 1977, when its contributions reached 8 percent of GDP. This percentage was the largest in the world from 1981-85. While maintaining pragmatically correct relations with the communist bloc, Kuwait strongly condemned the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and provided significant economic assistance to bolster Pakistan. Kuwait encouraged private institutions to direct economic, medical, and humanitarian aid to Afghan refugees and to the Mujaheddin resistance.

**IRANIAN REVOLUTION:** Iran's fundamentalist Islamic revolution in the late 1970's sent shock waves through Kuwait. Ayatollah Khomeini held deep personal animosity toward Kuwait (particularly after Kuwait denied him entry in October 1978) and appealed to Shiite minorities in the Persian Gulf to overthrow existing governments. Nonetheless, Kuwait attempted to improve relations with Tehran, sending humanitarian aid to Iranian flood victims and reaching bilateral agreements on technical and oil cooperation.

**GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL:** Faced with threats from Iran's revolution and the onset of the Iran-Iraq War, Kuwait played a leading role in the creation of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in 1981. The Council consists of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. While the group's goal is "to generate coordination in all fields of economic and social spheres," one of the GCC's first substantive acts was to develop mutual defense structures including joint rapid deployment forces, air defense, transport, and procurement.

**IRAN-IRAQ WAR:** Ironically, at one time, Iraq was the largest recipient of Kuwaiti aid. During Iraq's war with Iran (1980-1988), Kuwait and Saudi Arabia donated 100 percent of the revenue from the 300,000 barrels pumped daily from shared fields in Eastern Kuwait. Kuwait's share of this subsidy was estimated at \$7.2 billion. In addition, Kuwait gave Iraq approximately \$15 billion in noncollectible "financial-political subsidies" during the war, of which \$6 billion was in cash. The Kuwaiti Government paid Kuwaiti merchants for amounts unpaid by Iraqi customers and paid up to 10 percent of Iraqi contractual obligations to British companies.

Kuwait also allowed Iraqi ships to evade the Iranian blockade by using Kuwaiti ports, even though this assistance exposed Kuwait to numerous Iranian bombings and terrorist attacks. Threats to Kuwaiti ships resulted in a request for superpower protection through reflagging or chartering arrangements for Kuwaiti oil tankers. Saddam Hussein recognized Kuwait's generous contributions by referring to the Kuwaitis as, "our few distinguished brethren."





# مواطنون من أجل الكويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### THE ECONOMY OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

**OVERVIEW:** Prior to the invasion by Iraq, the economy of Kuwait was the strongest in the region. After several lean years caused by the crash of oil prices and the Iran/Iraq war, the Kuwaiti economy grew by 5 percent in 1989, reaching a GNP of approximately US\$30 billion. This growth was supported by the government's implementation of expansionary fiscal and monetary policies. The economy was characterized by increased export earnings, an expanding current account surplus, low inflation, and steadily increasing living standards. Government spending priorities emphasized education, housing, roads, public utilities, telecommunications, and medical care.

**DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY:** Despite sharp fluctuations in oil prices, the Government of Kuwait has pursued a consistent development strategy based on (1) development of oil and gas exports with an increased share of value-added and refined product markets; (2) emphasizing domestic service industries, particularly in the trade and finance sectors; and (3) pursuit of an active overseas investment program which accounted for 28 percent of national income. Kuwait's international portfolio is managed by the London-based Kuwait Investment Office, which remains authorized by the British Government to continue normal operations.

**OIL:** With oil reserves of 90 billion barrels, Kuwait has the world's third largest oil reserves. Refined products had been generating as much export revenue as crude oil, and approximately 20 percent of crude and refined exports reached end users via Kuwaiti distributors.

Petroleum and natural gas are under Government ownership. During the first quarter of 1990, oil production averaged 1.8 million to 2 million barrels per day, well below the capacity of 2.5 barrels per day. The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, which operates 4,500 gas stations throughout Europe, has moved its headquarters to London in the wake of the Iraqi invasion. The company is authorized by European governments to continue normal business operations indefinitely, although oil products from non-Kuwaiti sources will be utilized.

**DIVERSIFICATION:** Kuwait has used its oil revenues to reduce its dependence on oil through diversification of its economic base. Diversification already has been implemented in sectors such as service industries, petrochemicals, housing and road construction. Service industries represent approximately 80 percent of Kuwait's non-oil GDP and 75 percent of employment.

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## **The Economy .../2**

**INCOME/EMPLOYMENT:** Per capita (GNP) income was \$15,308 in 1989, an increase of 15.71 percent over the previous year. Kuwait's labor force of 663,000 enjoyed full employment, with the service sector employing 20 percent, construction 20 percent, trade 12 percent, and manufacturing 8.6 percent.

**FINANCE:** Prior to the invasion, Kuwait's currency, the dinar, was linked to a basket of international currencies. In 1989, the exchange for the dinar was approximately \$3.40, a highly competitive rate for U.S. exporters.

In December, 1989, the Government unveiled an economic blueprint which outlined an increased role for the private sector and revitalization of the country's stock market through legalization of forward transactions, establishment of unit trusts with local and foreign participation, and expansion of the market's base by accelerating the registration process for domestic and foreign companies.

**TRADE:** Plans for a free trade zone in Kuwait were underway and improvements in port efficiency were being implemented by the gradual introduction of user fees aimed at cutting waste and reducing government subsidies.

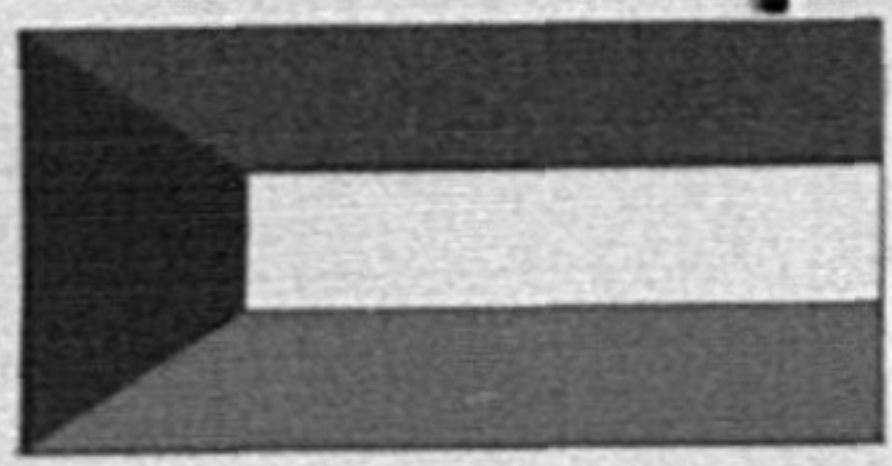
Prior to the trade embargo, Kuwait's principal exports were crude petroleum and refined products, natural gas, chemicals, machinery, and transport equipment. Principal foreign markets for the products were Japan, Italy, the United States, Taiwan, West Germany, and the United Kingdom.

U.S. exports to Kuwait soared to \$855 million in 1989, putting the United States on a par with Japan as the largest supplier to the Kuwaiti market. Further increases were projected for the next several years. Kuwait's major imports from the U.S. are passenger motor vehicles, automobile and tractor parts, heating and cooling equipment, and tobacco products.

American firms with operations in Kuwait include American Express, American Life Insurance, Arthur Young & Co., Avis, Bausch & Lomb, Boeing, Carrier International, Continental Airlines, Crown Pacific, Dresser SAK, Ernest & Whinney, Getty Oil, Ingersoll-Rand, Hardee's Food Systems, Honeywell, IBM, Lockheed, McDonnell-Douglas, Merrill Lynch, NCR, Otis Elevator, Pan American Airways, Pepsi-Cola, Pratt & Whitney, Raytheon, Rockwell International, Sheraton, and TWA.

# # #





# مواطنون من أجل الكويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### EDUCATION IN KUWAIT

**OVERVIEW:** Citizens of Kuwait receive free education from kindergarten through the university level. In some situations, students are provided living quarters free of charge and monthly stipends of approximately \$525.00 to help them continue their education.

In education, as in some other aspects of life, Kuwait is rated first in the Arab world in opportunities for women. During the 1987-88 school year, there were 372,000 students in government-operated schools, of whom 191,000 were boys and 181,000 girls. Fully 41 percent of Kuwait University degree holders are women.

As of the 1988-89 school year, Kuwait had 571 state-operated schools, 111 private schools, and nine centers for advanced education, with a total of approximately 550,000 students and 30,000 teachers, professors and instructors. The 1989 population of Kuwait was approximately 2.1 million.

Kuwait's current education system is relatively new. Prior to 1911, the basics of religion and the three "Rs" were taught informally at *kuttab*s, attached to the local mosques. Boys first received formal education provided by the state in 1911. This system had no set curriculum and provided primarily religious instruction and practical subjects such as pearl diving and trading. A second school with a more structured curriculum and a broader range of subjects was opened in 1920. The first school for girls was opened in 1937. In 1955, an educational task force from Egypt conducted a thorough audit of the Kuwaiti schools and produced a report and recommendations which provided the basis for the modern system that exists today.

**FORMAL GOVERNMENT EDUCATION:** There are four stages of formal government education:

1. Kindergarten -- Voluntary, for ages 4 to 6.
2. Primary -- Compulsory, for ages 6 to 10.
3. Intermediate -- Compulsory, for ages 10 to 14.
4. Secondary -- Elective, for ages 14 to 18.

**PRIVATE EDUCATION:** Private schools were started in 1967 to fill the educational needs of the children of the growing number of expatriate workers in Kuwait. In 1988-89, more than 118,000 students attended

-more-

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## Education .../2

different private schools. At that time there were 61 non-Kuwaiti Arab schools with 81,000 students, and 29 other schools serving 37,000 students of various foreign origins. The Kuwaiti government gives financial aid to the Arab schools, paying half of the school fees and providing free text books.

**UNIVERSITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION:** Kuwait University was founded in 1966 with 418 students, 31 professors and three courses of study. By 1987, the number of students had grown to 17,047 and there were 891 professors.

The university is free and is open to all holders of general secondary diplomas with required grade averages, subject to available openings in the courses of study selected by the applicants.

**ADULT EDUCATION AND ERADICATION OF ILLITERACY:** Twenty-six years ago, Kuwait started a program to end illiteracy and offer adult education. Students in this program who complete secondary school are eligible to enroll at Kuwait University.

A law was enacted in 1981 making illiteracy eradication compulsory and providing financial incentives for the most successful students. The program has reduced the illiteracy rate from 54.5 percent in 1957 to 26.4 percent in 1985. It is projected the 1990 rate will fall to 20.3 percent.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Kuwait has four religious schools, whose 4,500 students study the same basic curriculum taught in the state schools, plus Islamic law.

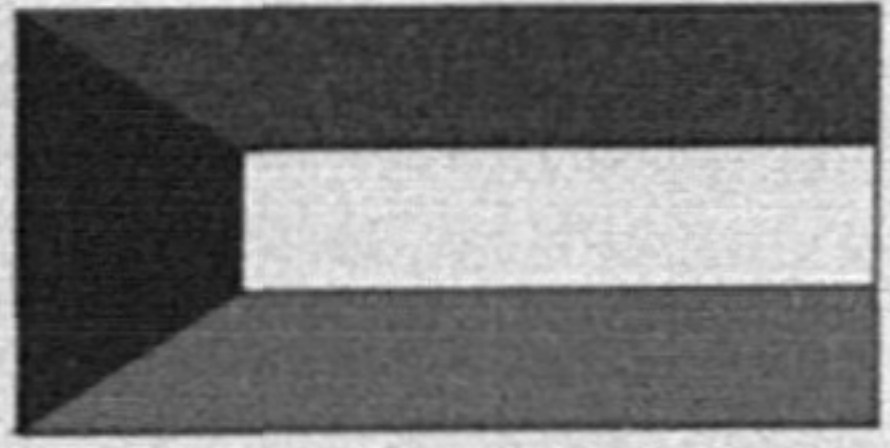
**VOCATIONAL TRAINING:** A special government agency was established in 1982 responsible for the training of students to fill jobs in various vocations and technologies. There are now 13 colleges and training centers preparing some 8,000 students for jobs.

**SPECIALIZED SCHOOLS:** Kuwait operates 30 Specialized Schools for children with handicaps and learning problems. These schools concentrate on the development of skills in practical crafts that will enable the students to work and function in society.

Kuwait's investment in education -- one of the highest levels in the world -- underlines the commitment of the government of Kuwait to the future prosperity of the nation.

# # #





# مواطنون من أجل الكويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### THE CULTURE OF THE STATE OF KUWAIT

**CULTURAL INFLUENCES:** Kuwait's heritage derives from its Arab founders and the Islamic religion. To the Arabs, ties of blood, clan and tribal organization are important. Values of mutual assistance, hospitality, loyalty and generosity are highly prized.

The majority of Kuwaitis are followers of Islam. Followers of Islam believe that God (Allah) gave his unquestioned word to Mohammed, his greatest prophet, through the angel Gabriel. Mohammed, in turn, set the word down in the Holy Koran. Muslims are taught to revere the principles of compassion, honesty, justice and love. Indeed, the Holy Koran begins with the words, "In the name of God. The compassionate and the merciful."

**EDUCATION:** Kuwait today combines a deep attachment to its traditional values with a commitment to social and cultural progress. The importance attached to education is perhaps the preeminent manifestation of the drive to take what is best from the modern world and use it for the enrichment of its citizens. Free education is provided to all from kindergarten through the 12th grade. The government also subsidizes higher education for qualified students, and many Kuwaiti students travel abroad to gain experience from exposure to a wide variety of cultural experiences. In 1981 the government embarked on a national drive to wipe out illiteracy in the country.

**ROLE OF WOMEN:** Education has been a major vehicle for the enormous advances made by Kuwaiti women. Although they do not yet have the vote, their participation in the educational system at all levels has brought them positions of responsibility in the government and business. Kuwaiti women now make up over 50 percent of the student body at Kuwait University, which was established in 1966 and was one of the first universities in the gulf region.

**MEDIA:** In Kuwait today, modern means of mass communications stand side-by-side with more traditional forms of entertainment. Kuwaiti television carries a variety of programs, including Kuwaiti-produced soap operas and a national version of "Sesame Street." American serials and British-produced programming are also available for viewing. In addition, the government also supports modern theater, artists, writers, a nascent film industry, and an active press which is afforded considerable freedom when compared to media in many other areas of the Middle East.

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## The Culture .../2

**THE ARTS:** While admiring 20th century technical advancements, Kuwait's attachment to the past is still reflected in their continuing enjoyment of more traditional pursuits. Links to the past are preserved through the songs, dances and music from their Arab heritage. Open-air performances of traditional dances such as the *ardah* and the *freasah* are performed by permanent folk troupes supported by the government.

Retired pearl divers in Kuwait City have a special place where they meet to talk, sing and hand down their experiences to the younger generation. Much of the music centers on the drum, tambourine and *rabbaba*, a single-stringed instrument covered by goatskin. Kuwait is also committed to revering its Islamic heritage. The Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyyah (Kuwait's National Museum) houses the foremost collections of Islamic art in the world and the finest private collection of Islamic art in Arab hands. The exhibition encompasses the farthest reaches of Islam from the eighth to the eighteenth centuries. A portion of the exhibition has recently traveled to L'Hermitage in Leningrad. From Islam, the Kuwaitis also derive a love for poetry, still a widely practiced art.

**RECREATION:** Recreation is an important part of Kuwaiti life where once again the past and the present live comfortably side-by-side. Soccer is the most popular spectator sport, but Kuwaitis also enjoy trips to the beach and amusement parks. Yet for all these modern preoccupations, the old entertainments remain. The *diwania*, gathering places where men meet to discuss every issue under the sun are still popular. Falconry still attracts its share of adherents and Kuwait's Bedouin roots are reflected in enthusiasm for horseback riding and racing.

# # #



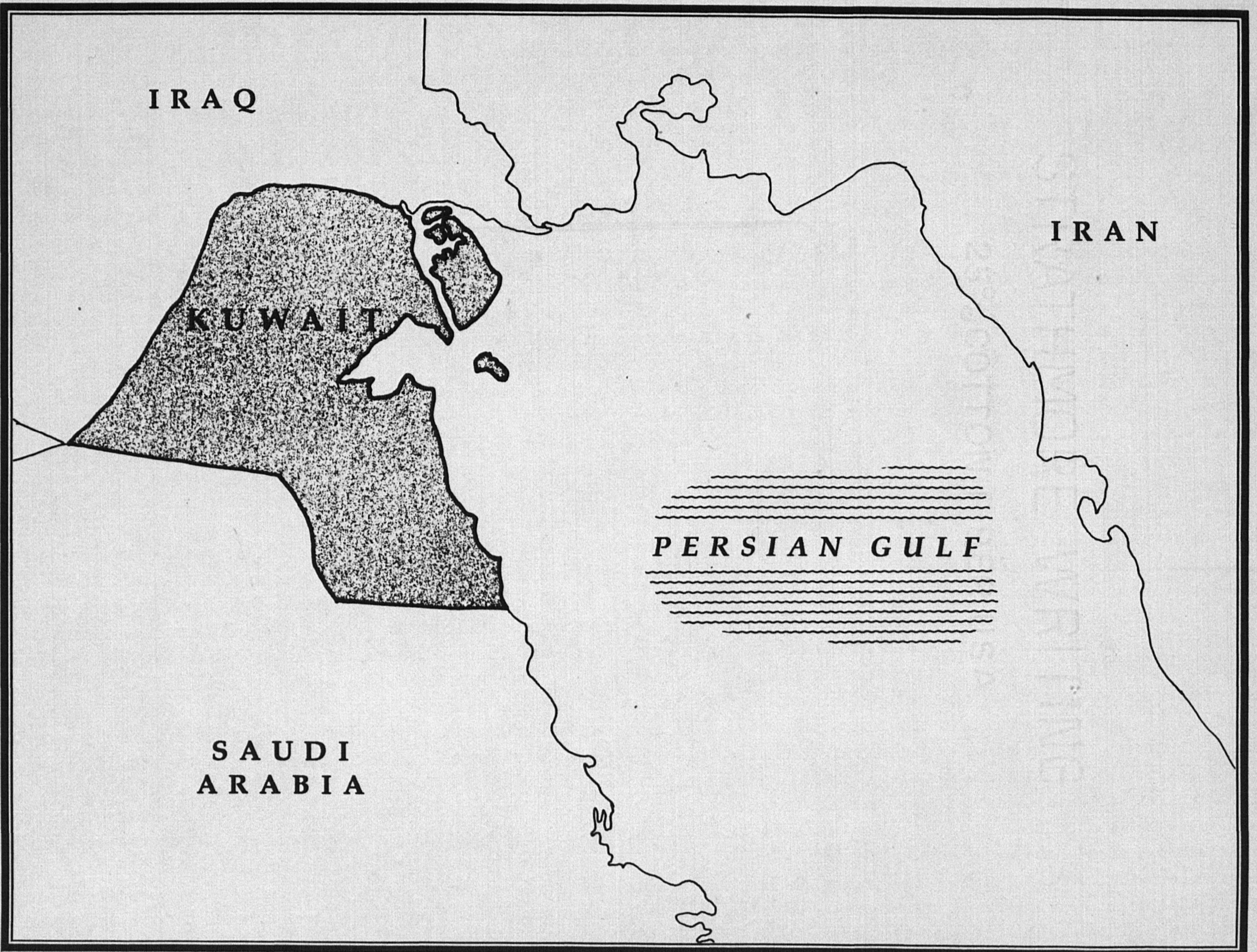
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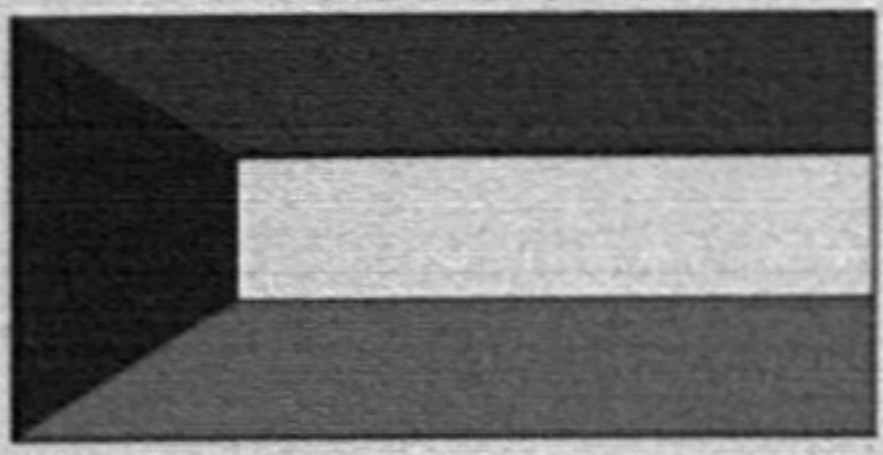
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A R A B I A

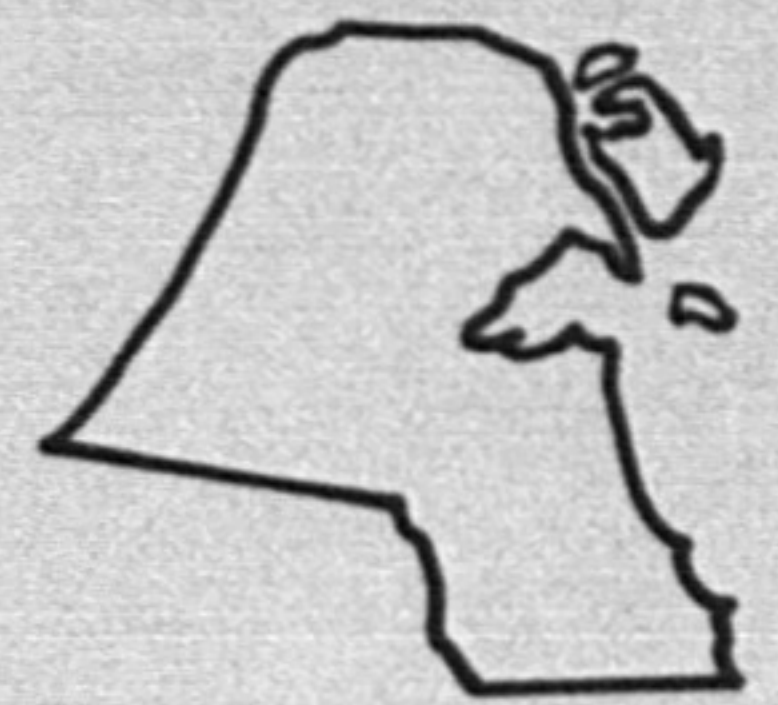






# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING THE IRAQI INVASION OF KUWAIT

**RESOLUTION 660 (August 2, 1990):** *Condemns the Iraqi invasion as a breach of international peace and security. Demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Calls upon Iraq to begin immediate, intensive negotiations.*

**RESOLUTION 661 (August 6):** *Affirms the right of individual and collective self-defense in response to the Iraqi attack. Determines that the invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq should end and the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Kuwait should be restored. Decides that all Member States shall (1) prevent imports of all commodities and products from Iraq and occupied Kuwait; (2) prohibit direct or indirect promotion of exports and trans-shipments to Iraq and Kuwait, except for certain medical and humanitarian purposes; (3) block the transfer of any funds or other economic resources to the Iraqi Government or any other enterprises within Iraq and Kuwait; and (4) prohibit remittance of funds to any organizations or individuals except for strictly medical or humanitarian purposes. Urges all States to (1) take appropriate measures to protect assets of the legitimate Government of Kuwait and its agencies and (2) not to recognize any regime in Kuwait set up by Iraq.*

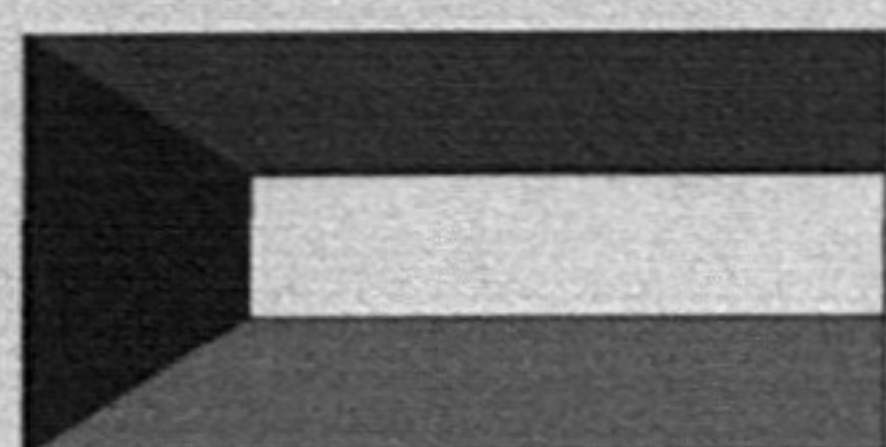
**RESOLUTION 662 (August 9):** *Expresses "grave alarm" at Iraq's claim of a "comprehensive and eternal merger" with Kuwait. Decides that Iraqi annexation of Kuwait under any form has no legal validity and is null and void. Repeats demand that Iraq withdraw immediately and unconditionally. Determines to restore sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity to Kuwait, as well as the authority of the legitimate Government.*

**RESOLUTION 664 (August 18):** *Demands that Iraq (1) facilitate immediate departure of detained foreign nationals from Iraq and Kuwait; (2) grant immediate access of consular officials to such nationals; and (3) take no actions to jeopardize the safety or health of these nationals. Reaffirms that Iraq's annexation is null and void. Demands that Iraq rescind its order for closure of diplomatic missions in Kuwait and withdrawal of their personnel's immunity.*

**RESOLUTION 665 (August 25):** *Calls upon Member States with maritime forces in the area to use "measures commensurate to specific circumstances," including military force, to halt shipping in order to inspect and verify cargoes and ensure strict implementation of the trade embargo.*

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# مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

## CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT



### FACT SHEET

#### LIST OF STATES SUPPORTING THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

AUGUST 25, 1990

Austria	Luxembourg
Bahrain	Mali
Belgium	Malta
Bolivia	Mexico
Bulgaria	Myanmar
Burundi	Netherlands
China	New Zealand
Colombia	Oman
Costa Rica	Paraguay
Cyprus	Peru
Czechoslovakia	Philippines
Denmark	Poland
Dominican Republic	Qatar
Egypt	Republic of Korea
Ethiopia	Saudi Arabia
Greece	Senegal
Guatemala	Singapore
Iceland	South Africa
India	Sri Lanka
Indonesia	Switzerland
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Syrian Arab Republic
Ireland	Turkey
Israel	Union of Soviet
Italy	Socialist Republics
Jordan	United Arab Emirates
Lebanon	Uruguay
Lesotho	Yugoslavia

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EXECUTIVE ORDER

- 1 2 7 2 2 -

BLOCKING IRAQI GOVERNMENT PROPERTY  
AND PROHIBITING TRANSACTIONS WITH IRAQ

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and section 301 of title 3 of the United States Code.

I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, find that the policies and actions of the Government of Iraq constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States and hereby declare a national emergency to deal with that threat.

I hereby order:

Section 1. All property and interests in property of the Government of Iraq, its agencies, instrumentalities and controlled entities and the Central Bank of Iraq that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of United States persons, including their overseas branches, are hereby blocked.

Section 2. The following are prohibited, except to the extent provided in regulations which may hereafter be issued pursuant to this Order:

(a) The import into the United States of any goods or services of Iraqi origin, other than publications and other informational materials;

(b) The export to Iraq of any goods, technology (including technical data or other information controlled for export pursuant to Section 5 of the Export Administration Act (50 U.S.C. App. 2404)) or services from the United States, except publications and other informational materials, and donations of articles intended to relieve human suffering, such as food, clothing, medicine and medical supplies intended strictly for medical purposes;

(c) Any transaction by a United States person relating to transportation to or from Iraq; the provision of transportation to or from the United States by any Iraqi person or any vessel or aircraft of Iraqi registration; or the sale in the United States by any person holding authority under the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended (49 U.S.C. 1514), of any transportation by air which includes any stop in Iraq;



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(d) The purchase by any United States person of goods for export from Iraq to any country;

(e) The performance by any United States person of any contract in support of an industrial or other commercial or governmental project in Iraq;

(f) The grant or extension of credits or loans by any United States person to the Government of Iraq, its instrumentalities and controlled entities;

(g) Any transaction by a United States person relating to travel by any United States citizen or permanent resident alien to Iraq, or to activities by any such person within Iraq, after the date of this Order, other than transactions necessary to effect such person's departure from Iraq, or travel for journalistic activity by persons regularly employed in such capacity by a newsgathering organization; and

(h) Any transaction by any United States person which evades or avoids, or has the purpose of evading or avoiding, any of the prohibitions set forth in this Order.

For purposes of this Order, the term "United States person" means any United States citizen, permanent resident alien, juridical person organized under the laws of the United States, or any person in the United States.

Section 3. This Order is effective immediately.

Section 4. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is hereby authorized to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Order. Such actions may include prohibiting or regulating payments or transfers of any property or any transactions involving the transfer of anything of economic value by any United States person to the Government of Iraq, its instrumentalities and controlled entities, or to any Iraqi national or entity owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by Iraq or Iraqi nationals. The Secretary may redelegate any of these functions to other officers and agencies of the Federal government. All agencies of the United States government are directed to take all appropriate measures within their authority to carry out the provisions of this Order, including the suspension or termination of licenses or other authorizations in effect as of the date of this Order.

This Order shall be transmitted to the Congress and published in the Federal Register.



THE WHITE HOUSE,  
August 2, 1990



EXECUTIVE ORDER

- 1 2 7 2 3 -

BLOCKING KUWAITI GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, including the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), and 3 U.S.C. 301.

I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States, find that the situation caused by the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy and economy of the United States and have declared a national emergency to deal with that threat.

I hereby order blocked all property and interests in property of the Government of Kuwait or any entity purporting to be the Government of Kuwait, its agencies, instrumentalities and controlled entities and the Central Bank of Kuwait that are in the United States, that hereafter come within the United States or that are or hereafter come within the possession or control of United States persons, including their overseas branches.

For purposes of this Order, the term "United States person" means any United States citizen, permanent resident alien, juridical person organized under the laws of the United States or any person in the United States.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to employ all powers granted to me by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to carry out the provisions of this Order.

This Order is effective immediately and shall be transmitted to the Congress and published in the Federal Register.



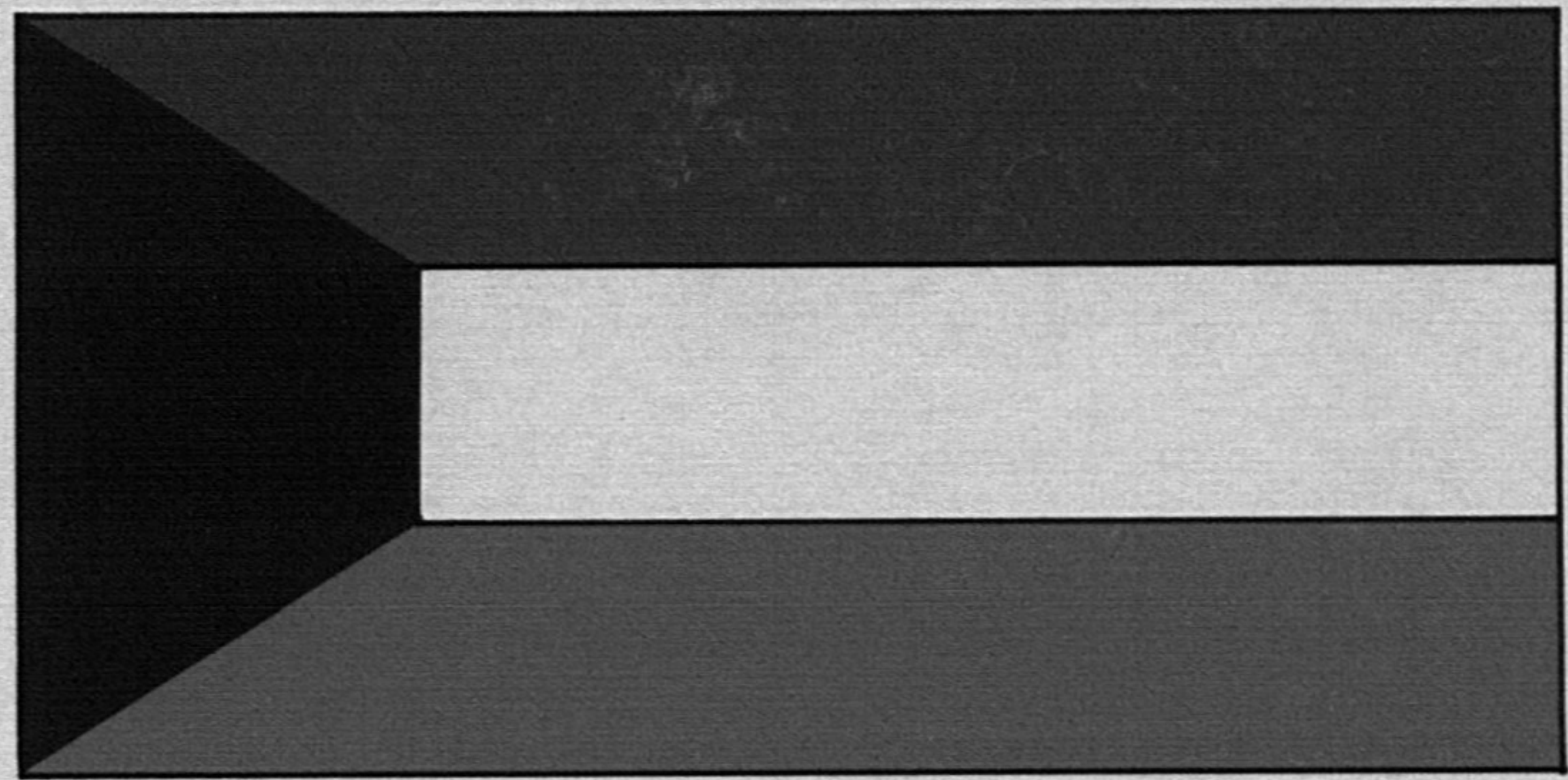
THE WHITE HOUSE,  
August 2, 1990



*Kablag*

مواطنون من أجل كويت حرة

CITIZENS FOR A FREE KUWAIT





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Citizens For A Free Kuwait, [OA/ID 07541-029]. n.d. MS Records of the Persian Gulf War: Records of the Persian Gulf War Collection. George H.W. Bush Presidential Library. Archives Unbound, [link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5101200669/GDSC?u=uagm&sid=GDSC&xid=6427ea79&pg=3](https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5101200669/GDSC?u=uagm&sid=GDSC&xid=6427ea79&pg=3). Accessed 14 Apr. 2021.